

(2) The board shall periodically review the State's comprehensive waste management system and make recommendations to the Governor, cognizant State agencies, and the General Assembly on ways to improve waste management; reduce the amount of waste generated; maximize resource recovery, reuse, and conservation; and minimize the amount of hazardous waste and low-level radioactive waste which must be disposed of.

(3) The board shall study and make recommendations on policy issues including but not limited to liability and financial responsibilities within the waste management area. On or before January 1, 1983, the Board shall prepare and present to the Governor and General Assembly a report concerning the desirability of establishing by statute a standard of strict liability for persons involved in storage, transportation, treatment, or disposal of hazardous or low-level radioactive waste in North Carolina.

(4) The board shall promote research and development and disseminate information on state-of-the-art means of handling and disposing of hazardous waste and low-level radioactive waste. The board is authorized to establish a waste information exchange for the State.

(5) The board shall promote public education and public involvement in the decision making process for the siting and permitting of proposed waste management facilities.

(6) The board shall periodically evaluate and assess the type and number of hazardous waste facilities, hazardous waste landfill facilities, low-level radioactive waste facilities and low-level radioactive waste landfill facilities in existence, under construction or planned in the State and multi-State region and promote the development of additional facilities particularly retrievable above-ground storage facilities if existing or planned facilities are deemed inadequate or unavailable.

(7) The board shall prepare and file jointly with the Governor and the General Assembly an annual report describing the board's activities and setting forth its recommendations for administrative or regulatory action required to improve the State's comprehensive waste management system or remedy noted defects in the system. A special report shall be filed in January of 1983 which shall include an evaluation on the possible need to organize State agencies more efficiently to improve overall performance of waste management functions. The report should give consideration to the advantages and disadvantages of consolidating or centralizing administration of programs that are now in separate agencies.

(8) The board shall each year recommend to the Governor a recipient for a 'Governor's Award of Excellence' which the Governor shall award for outstanding achievement by an industry or company in the area of hazardous waste or low-level radioactive waste management.

(9) The board shall promote and participate in discussion with other states concerning development of regional hazardous waste and low-level radioactive waste management agreements.

(10) The board shall assist localities in which facilities are proposed in collecting and receiving information relating to the suitability of the proposed site. At the request of a local government in which facilities are proposed, the board shall direct the appropriate agencies of State government to develop such relevant data as that locality shall reasonably request.